

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Coal Impact Grant Recipients to Receive \$375,700 in Coal Impact Grant Funds

(HELENA) – The Montana Coal Board awarded a total of \$375,700 in coal impact grants to three Montana communities at its December 8th meeting in Billings.

"I congratulate the Montana Coal Board for its ongoing efforts to evaluate and award these important grants to our hard working coal communities," said Governor Brian Schweitzer.

The Montana Coal Board provides financial assistance in the form of grants to enable local jurisdictions to adequately provide for the expansion of public services or facilities needed as a direct consequence of coal development activities, including coal mines or coal-using energy complexes, or resulting from a major decline in those activities (see the Board's web site at http://comdev.mt.gov/CDD_cb.asp). The following applicants were awarded coal impact grant funds for their projects:

Big Horn County \$40,000 for renovations to the Big Horn County Museum

Rosebud County

Contact Chad Fenner (County Commissioner) at 665-9700

Contact John Williams (Mayor) at 748-2300

Rosebud County Health Care Center \$135,717 for equipment purchase – phone system, beds, chairs, night stands, bed tables, and in-room storage

compartments

Contact Daniel Watson (County Commissioner) at 346-2251

Eligibility Requirements:

Applicants eligible to receive financial assistance under the guidelines of this program include local governmental units (cities, towns, counties, school districts, water and sewer districts, etc.), state agencies, and governing bodies of federally recognized Indian tribes. The Coal Board provides grants to assist these governmental units in planning for and meeting the need for a variety of public facilities or services directly related to the impacts from coal development, consumption, or decline.

The Montana Coal Board's next meeting is in Roundup, MT on March 14, 2008.

Time: 8:30 a.m.

Location: 704 First Street East (Emergency Services Ambulance Barn)

Coal Impact Grant applications are due February 1, 2008.

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